



# LAURENZO EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CENTER IS INSPIRING

Houston Schools That Inspire celebrates extraordinary work in ordinary public schools. While we often focus on fixing problems, this initiative spotlights what's already working brilliantly in our classrooms. By recognizing schools achieving remarkable results through innovation, we nurture excellence across our educational landscape. This celebration honors the selected schools, vibrant communities that support them, and the unique promise of Houston. **Laurenzo is now part of this inspiring story!**



## How Laurenzo Early Childhood Center Opens Children to the World

Ninfa Laurenzo Early Childhood Center is a 2025 School That Inspires because it reimagines early childhood education through immersive, real-world learning experiences that honor children as meaning-makers rather than empty vessels. By building a rich schema before focusing on standards, this pre-K center creates a foundation where language, discovery, and joy fuel academic excellence.

In a world where early childhood education is often reduced to routines and readiness checklists, **Laurenzo reminds us what real readiness looks like: wonder, vocabulary, imagination, and belonging.** At Laurenzo Early Childhood Center, every child is both visitor and curator in a museum of ideas. They don't just prepare for the test. They prepare for life.



**EVERY STUDENT, EVERY DAY:**  
Student Achievement through Responsive Education

Scan for an inside look at Laurenzo's innovative methods.

# HOUSTON SCHOOLS THAT INSPIRE

EDUCATE • ELEVATE • CELEBRATE

## WHAT WE BELIEVE IN:



**Educating** and empowering Houston to think expansively about what school can, and should, be.



**Elevating** best practices and key insights that we can learn from and be inspired by.



**Celebrating** schools in our own backyard that are demonstrating excellence in a variety of ways.



Scan here to  
learn more!

[goodreasonhouston.org/schools-that-inspire](http://goodreasonhouston.org/schools-that-inspire)



## THE NUMBERS BEHIND THE INSPIRATION

In a city as richly diverse as Houston, true educational excellence means creating learning environments that respond to and celebrate each student's unique identity and potential. This year's Houston Schools That Inspire are doing just that and the results speak volumes.

Students who attended free public Pre-K were twice as likely to be ready for Kindergarten, 6 percentage points less likely to be chronically absent, and showed stronger English proficiency than their peers. These early investments are paying off—and they're helping all kinds of learners get a strong start that lasts.

## WHY EARLY EDUCATION MATTERS

Kids who go to Pre-K are more prepared for reading and math in school, more likely to graduate from high school and attend college and earn more money in their careers.

Across all Houston-region ISDs, Black, Hispanic, Emergent Bilingual (EB), and Economically Disadvantaged (EcoDis) students who attended Pre-K were more likely to be kindergarten ready than their peers who did not attend Pre-K.



Percentage of Eligible Students Enrolled in HISD Pre-K

